GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1656
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2006
IT REFUNDS
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to growing cases of inordinate delay in tax refunds;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received in this regard during the last three and the current years, year wise; and

(c) the amount paid as interest on delayed refunds during the above period?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) Yes, Sir. There is delay in issuing of refunds in some cases despite the streamlining of procedure for issuing of refunds by comprehensive computerization programme of the Income-tax Department. However, the Department has put in place an effective mechanism for redressal of grievances relating to delay in refund.

(b) Details regarding delayed refunds are not centrally maintained and their compilation would require collection of information from field units located all over the country involving substantial time and effort which may not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be achieved.

Details of total interest paid on delayed refunds are not maintained separately. However, the detail of total amount of interest paid to the assessees on refunds for the last three years are as follows :-

Financial Year	Interest paid to the assessee (In Rupees crore)
2003-2004	4701
2004-2005	3865
2005-2006	4553